riparian States, also envisages irrigation benefits to the State of Gujarat.

Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana

3192. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the expected assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme for implementation on Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana during the remaining period of Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether the assistance for the current Annual Plan has been released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The allocations under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) are made on year to year basis for those ongoing irrigation projects which satisfy the AIBP criteria and are proposed by the State, subject to availability of funds and the budget outlays provided by the State for these projects in their respective annual plans and keeping in view State ceiling of Central Loan Assistance prescribed by Planning Commission for the year.

(b) Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs. 25 crore has been released as first instalment of Central Loan Assistance for Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme during the current year.

Shah-Nahar Major Irrigation Project

3193. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shah-Nahar Major Irrigation Project with an outlay of Rs. 143.32 crores to be shared jointly by Punjab and Himachal Pradesh has been approved;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether work on the project has since commenced;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The project was approved by the Planning Commission on 21.2.1997 for an estimated cost of Rs. 143.32 crore at 1995 price level. Governments of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab have to share Rs. 54.83 crore and Rs. 88.49 crore respectively.

(c) to (e) The work on the project started in the year 1997-98. Different components of the project such as head regulators, canal, fall etc. are in various stages of construction as reported by the Governments of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.

Clearance of Srisailam Right Bank Canal Pulichintala and Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme

3194. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government for the investment clearance of Srisailam Right Bank Canal Pulichintala and Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme;

(b) if so, whether Government is aware of the observation of the Supreme Court with regard to surplus water of the Krishna Basin i.e., the lowest riparian State should not be allowed to proceed ahead with large scale water projects; and

(c) if so, what is the stand of Government with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Union Government has given clearance to major/medium irrigation projects in Krishna Basin of Andhra Pradesh which are within the allocation made by Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal to